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Archives Charged With Suppressing Assassination Data

CHICAGO, April 6 (AP)—A suit charging the National Archives in Washington with suppressing documents concerning an alleged plot to assassinate President Kennedy in Chicago was filed today in Federal District Court.

A legal researcher, Sherman Skolnick, contends in the suit that the archives are withholding information that shows Mr. Kennedy died not at the hands of a lone assassin but as the result of a conspiracy.

Radio Station WCFL here, which aired the story before the suit was filed and worked with Mr. Skolnick in preparing the action, said the suit "is believed to be the first in the nation challenging the authority of the archives to withhold information about the Kennedy death for 75 years."

The Warren Commission, appointed by then President Johnson to investigate the assassination, said that Mr. Kennedy was killed by a single man, Lee Harvey Oswald, and that it could find no evidence of conspiracy.

The suit asserts that five conspirators planned to kill the President at the Army-Air Force football game in Chicago Nov. 2, 1963. When the President canceled his appearance at the last minute because of a cold, the suit continued, the assassination attempt was rescheduled for three weeks later in Dallas.

The suit states that "less than an hour before the President's scheduled arrival," a lithographer was arrested in Chicago for a minor traffic violation. It said the man, one of the alleged conspirators, also was charged with carrying a concealed weapon after policemen noticed a hunting knife on the front seat of the car.

Mr. Skolnick contends the lithographer, Thomas Arthur Vallee, "was a double for Lee Harvey Oswald." Mr. Skolnick said recent efforts to trace Mr. Vallee's whereabouts were unsuccessful.